

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's thy God's, and Truth's."

SUMTER, S. C., TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1884.

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## The Watchman and Southron.

Published every Tuesday,

—BY THE—

Watchman and Southron Publishing

Company,

SUMTER, S. C.

TERMS:

Two Dollars per annum in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

One Square, first insertion.....\$1 00

Every subsequent insertion.....50

Contracts for three months, or longer will

be made at reduced rates.

All communications which subserve private

interests will be charged for as advertisements.

Obituaries and tributes of respect will be

charged for.

Marriage notices and notices of deaths pub-

lished free.

For job work or contracts for advertising

address Watchman and Southron, or apply at

the Office, to

N. G. OSTEN.

Business Manager.

COMPANY E.

PALMETTO SHARP SHOOTERS.

Address By Lieut. H. T. Abbott,

DELIVERED AT

The Reunion of the Survivors of Co.

E. Palmetto Sharp Shooters, at

Mayesville, May 16, 1884.

COMRADES AND FRIENDS:—It is with

feelings of unfeigned pleasure, sincere

gratitude, mingled with emotions of

pride, that we greet you upon this

occasion. In looking around on your

familiar faces our mind naturally

reverts to the reminiscences of the

past; and those hallowed memories

and soul-inspiring associations which

cluster about the sacred shrine of

our company's history are rapidly

and vividly portrayed in memory's

eye, and we again seem to be living

in turbulent days of the eventful past;

a past, fruitful in all the elements of

moral, physical and heroic endurance;

a past, whose escutcheon is as bright

as the deeds it commemorates; a

past, which calls to mind the camp,

the march, the bivouac, the merry

laughter, the skirmish, the bloody

fight, the march, the bivouac, the

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confederation of the thirteen original

colonies, there has always existed a

party, under one name or another, that

advocated the doctrine of state rights;

and led by such men as Madison,

Jefferson, Hayne, Davis, and more

especially by that great political

scholar and consummate statesman,

John C. Calhoun, and a host of other

bright and burning lights. Besides,

the doctrine was no new thing at the

North. The right of it had been

reserved by the State of New York

on her adoption of the Federal Con-

stitution, and the exercise of it had

been threatened on four separate, and

distinct occasions, by the state of Mas-

sachusetts. Not only was this doc-

trine taught by men who had given

more than their share of lustre to the

military history of America, and the

council of its senate, but the provoca-

tions given by the North to the South,

were enough

"To stir a fever in the blood of age,

Or make the infants sinner strong as steel."

The representative power of the

North was enormously in excess of

the South, and, whenever it chose to

act unilaterally, was capable of any

amount of oppression, which in all

fiscal matters it did not fail to do.

The consequence was, under this sec-

tional domination grew up a system

of protection and bounties of the

North without parallel in the history

of class legislation and of unequal

laws in a common country; the South

scarcely being treated as a party to

common measures of legislation. By

tariffs, pensions, fishing bounties,

tonnage duties and appropriations in

a thousand forms, by every measure

that the ingenuity of avarice could

devise, the North exacted from the

South a tribute, which it could only

pay at the expense, and in the char-

acter of an inferior in the Union.

Protection was the cry on every hand.

Massachusetts, although unwilling

to be taxed on the importation of mol-

asses, wanted protection for the rum

she made from it; Connecticut on her

woolen manufactures; Pennsylvania

sought protection on her steel and

paper mills, while New York deman-

ded that every article her people

could produce should be protected.

By this unequal taxation and the

course of trade caused thereby, the

South paid a tribute estimated by a

Northern man at two hundred million

dollars a year; besides countless

enduring insults, treated as an "infer-

ior," and designated as the spotted and

degraded part of the Union."

Again, although speaking the same

language and united by a federal

bond of union, the civilization of the

North was entirely different from the

civilization of the South. That of the

North was materialistic, ostentatious and

conceited; that of the South senti-

mental, refined and chivalrous; op-

posed to each other in principle and

interest, besides being jealous rivals

in political power, naturally caused

an alienation of feelings, which all

attempts at reconciliation seemed

only calculated to exasperate their

reciprocal animosities. But with all

this acrimony and bitterness exist-

ing between the rival sections, the

Union might have lasted longer, had

not the Black Republicans (of the North

in 1860 nominated and elected by a

strictly geographical line [every state

north of Mason's and Dixon's line,

except New Jersey, voting for, and

every one south against] a sectional

well responded to the fury of the

North. President Davis called for vol-

unteers for the common cause. The

reply to the call, throughout the whole

country, was enthusiastic, and the

most patriotic devotion was manifes-

ted on every hand. Company "E"

on the first call promptly responded,

reorganized and elected that brave

and honest man Alexander Colclough,

Captain, and entered the Confederate

service in the Regiment commanded

by our well known fellow citizen, Col.

J. D. Blanding, and was known as

Company D. 9th, Regt. S. C. V's.

Arriving in Richmond Va. two days

after the first battle of Manassas, the

Regiment was in no regular engage-

ment, but endured the privations

and hardships of camp life, the

burning heat on the plains of Germain,

and the snow, sleet and wind on the

bleak hills of Centerville with the sto-

icism of the Grecian, and heroism of

the Roman soldier, losing one fourth

of the members by disease and death.

But it was not until the reorganiza-

tion of the army, early in 1862, that

the history of Company "E" Palmetto

Sharp Shooters properly commences.

The Confederate Government called

for troops for the war and a reorgani-

zation of the army. Company "D"

with her usual alacrity and patriotism

was again among the first to respond.

Getting numerous and valuable re-

cruits from several other companies,

she reorganized by re-electing Alex-

ander Colclough, Captain, Dosier Lee,

J. M. Wilder and D. W. Harrington,

Lieutenants, and attached itself as

Company "E" to the Regiment known

as the Palmetto Sharp Shooters, then

commanded by that brilliant and dis-

tinguished officer, Gen. Micah Jen-

kins. Its first service was on the

Peninsula and in Gen. Joseph E.

Johnson's famous retreat from York-

town; took part on the 5th of May in

the battle of Williamsburg. Our

Regiment was put in defence of Fort

Magruder, and almost during the

entire day the enemies' sharp shoot-

ers and artillery poured a constant

stream of shot and shell in the fort; yet

being protected by its walls our casu-

alties were comparatively light. Ed-

ward S. Armes, the first of our num-

ber to fall, was mortally wounded.

On the 30th of May the battle of Se-

ven Pines took place and company "E"

acted quite a conspicuous part.

Capt. Colclough was sent out by Gen.

Anderson to reconnoitre the enemies

right. A mile or more from the main

army he encountered and captured

one hundred and forty two prisoners,

and brought them safely into camp

with thirty four men. Perhaps dur-

ing the whole war no other company

ever performed such a feat. Besides

capturing the Yankees the company

took part in the regular battle, and

had R. M. Footman killed, and a

number wounded.

On the 26th of June commenced

those series of engagements known

as "The Seven Days Battle Around

Richmond." On the 27th, the battle

of Gaines' Mill, the most obstinate

of the whole war was fought. Gen.

McClellan evidently intended it to be

decisive. The enemy occupied a

range of hills which rose abruptly

from a deep ravine. This ravine was

filled with sharpshooters to whom

the line of infantry was stationed

behind rows of trees about the first.

A third occupied the crest strength-

ened with rifle trenches, and crowned

out the expected support. Thus, in

the face of superiority of numbers and

advantage of position, Gen. Long-

street was forced to attack the

enemy. The woods on either side

swarmed with infantry, while

sixteen pieces of artillery belched

forth shot, shell, canister and grape

in front. Into this vortex our brigade

was ordered, and gallantly pressed

forward into a storm of lead and

iron pouring into us from both flanks

and front, driving the enemy from

his position, and capturing his artil-

lery. During this bloody strife, com-

pany "E" had thirty men killed and

wounded out of thirty two. The dead

left upon the field of battle were Lieut.

Dozier Lee, Lieut. Dwight W. Har-

ington, D. E. Wells, James G. Wells,

H. Barker, H. A. Barkley, T. M.

Dick, J. W. McCoy, W. White, W.

S. Thames and Jesse Smith. Here

might be a fitting place to eulogize

our noble dead, who actuated by that

spirit of pride, gallantry, chivalry

and devotion that ever characterizes

the sons of freedom, and which the

lays of minst